



AIEO UPDATE

Friends, Associates and Customers of AIEO: AIEO UPDATE is published at least four times each year to provide information on the activities of USEPA's American Indian Environmental Office (AIEO). AIEO greatly encourages input and feedback. AIEO UPDATE is available through electronic mail and in the EPA AIEO Web Page under "What's New" and "Publications." Please contact Marlene Regelski at (202) 260-7284 or through e-mail (regelski.marlene@epa.gov) for more information or submissions you may have.

MAY 2001

Web Page: <http://www.epa.gov/Indian>

NUMBER 12

THE GENERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (GAP) AIEO has

national program responsibility for administering the GAP program to support development of Tribal Environmental Programs. Established in 1993, GAP funds assist Tribal Governments and Intertribal Consortia in planning, developing or establishing environmental protection programs.

NATIONAL GAP SET-ASIDE - The solicitation for projects for the **National GAP Set-Aside** funds was released at the end of March. In a departure from previous years, the topics to be considered for funding were selected following a discussion with all EPA Tribal coordinators, focusing on issues that are of national concern for all GAP recipients. Based on this discussion, the Set-Aside funds are targeted for projects that address integrating sustainable development and environmental management programs, developing a more efficient, less burdensome tracking systems, and organizing a national conference on tribal issues. Proposals were due to the Regional Indian Coordinators by May 4, with the final selection to be made May 25.

PROGRAMMATIC CHANGES: A number of major changes have occurred for Tribes use of GAP funding. Under new grant regulations, effective April 17, 2001, GAP recipients who are in a position to implement may be able to use program funds to address solid and hazardous waste issues. In addition, GAP funds can be combined with specific EPA grants as part of a **Performance Partnership Grant (PPG)** allowing a wide range of tribal environmental program activities to be addressed in a single funding mechanism. AIEO is working with other EPA Program offices to provide clear direction on how to access the flexibility for both these areas.

AIEO contacts: (GAP) **Rodges Ankrah** at (202) 260-9840, ankrah.rodges@epa.gov and **Marty Kucera** (202) 260-7773, kucera.martha@epa.gov

BASELINE ASSESSMENTS - *A specific objective of the EPA Strategic Plan is to work with Indian Tribes to assess Indian Country for its environmental conditions. The purpose of the Baseline Assessment of Indian Country is to assemble, in an easy to use and accessible format, the environmental data important to support sound environmental planning and management, both for the Tribes and for EPA.*

The first major product of the Baseline Assessment Project is the Tribal Information Management System (TIMS). TIMS is a web-based information system that allows the user to access Federal environmental information on a Tribe-by-Tribe basis. Currently the system is being tested on a developmental server within EPA. In the future, Tribal environmental managers, each with their own password, will be able to download information about their own Tribe (and the surrounding areas) and add it to their own system, make maps and analyze geographic data to assist in Tribal environmental management. Tribal governments will have the opportunity to review their Tribe's information before the TIMS is finalized for internet use. AIEO is preparing to do TIMS demonstrations at upcoming Tribal meetings and to initiate the formal consultation process with Tribal governments.

AIEO Contact: **Dr. Ed Liu**, (202) 260-9872, liu.ed@epa.gov or **Tonya Fish**, (202) 260-0769, Fish.Tonya@epa.gov

PERFORMANCE PARTNERSHIP GRANTS (PPGs) were first proposed as a budgetary and administrative amendment in FY'96. They are intended to increase grant regulatory flexibility and relieve administrative burdens without sacrificing accountability for federal funds and to allow multimedia and pollution prevention strategies. They are proposed for states as well as Tribes.

The **Performance Partnership Grant (PPG)** Tribal Rule (40CFR Part 35B) took effect on April 17, 2001. EPA's Grants Administration Office will address issues relating to PPG implementation as they arise. The Federal Register Notice may be viewed on the internet at: <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-GENERAL/2001/January/Day-16/q219.htm> **GAD CONTACT:** **Scott McMoran**, (202) 564-5376, McMoran.Scott@epa.gov, or **AIEO Contact:** **Bob Smith** (202) 260-8202, Smith.Bob-nmi@epa.gov

TRIBAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE: The Tribal Operations Committee (TOC) consists of the EPA Senior Leadership Council from EPA HQ and Regions, and the Tribal Caucus - (Tribal Representatives from each of EPA's Regions). Tribal Caucus members are selected by the Tribes in each Region. This group meets on a regular basis to discuss implementation of the environmental protection programs for which EPA and the Tribes share responsibility as co-regulators. All Tribes are encouraged to communicate with members of the TOC. A list of current Tribal Caucus Members is available through AIEO, Regions and on the AIEO Web Page at: <http://www.epa.gov/indian>

TRIBAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE SCHEDULE:

The Tribal Caucus of the Tribal Operations Committee met with EPA Administrator Christine Whitman on May 3, 2001, in Washington, DC. During this positive meeting, the Administrator announced her plan to reaffirm the EPA Indian Policy and requested Tribal Caucus members propose any changes or additions they thought would improve its efficiency. Administrator Whitman pledged her support for the Tribal Caucus and is looking forward to convening a meeting of the full Tribal Operations Committee in July. She also discussed the process for selecting a new AIEO Director, acknowledged the Tribal Air Rule legal victory and recognized the complexity and challenges posed by the promulgation of core water quality standards for Tribes.

On June 12-13, the Tribal Caucus will return to Washington to meet with EPA's Goal Team Leaders to discuss the GPRA driven EPA Strategic Plan Goals. A full Tribal Operations Committee is scheduled for July 11, 2001, also in Washington, DC. A joint meeting of the National Tribal Operations Committee with the Regional Tribal Operations Committees is being discussed for the late fall.

AIEO Contact: **Theresa Fleming**, (202) 260-3986, Fleming-Blue.Theresa@epa.gov

AIEO NEWS

NEW HORIZONS: AIEO DIRECTOR LEAVES EPA

KATHY GOROSPE has taken a position in the private sector after over four years as Director of AIEO. During her tenure, more progress has been made in the development of environmental program in Indian country than any other period in EPA history. Before she left, Kathy briefed the new Administrator and urged Administrator Whitman to reaffirm the EPA Indian Policy. The administrator agreed and also pledged her full support for the Tribal Operations Committee and the EPA Indian Program. Kathy's departing comments were, I will miss the people I worked with at EPA. Their creativity and dedication made all of our successes possible. I wish everyone the best and thank them for their support. May they all live long and prosper; and may the Force be with them. Kathy can be reached at: kgorospe@nordhauslaw.com. **Nordhaus's Law Firm, Suite 305, 816 Connecticut Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 202-530-1270.**

ON DETAIL:

Helen Handon has been working in the AIEO Office since early March on a 120-day detail assignment. She comes from the Office of the Administrator, Office of Administrative Law Judges, where she has worked for the past 23 years as legal staff assistant to the Senior Administrative Law Judge. She is proud to state that she has been employed at the EPA since its inception. Currently, she is responsible for tracking controlled correspondence and providing administrative/clerical support to the AIEO staff. She finds her work in the AIEO office to be interesting and challenging.

Peaches Joyal joined AIEO as of May 7, 2001, coming from the Immediate Office of the Office of Water. She looks forward to working with the staff, Tribes and Tribal affiliates. She has been with EPA approximately three years, although she's been with the federal government for over 30 years, including service in the Peace Corps. Peaches will be handling calendar duties and working with the administration of training and communications.

BACK FROM MATERNITY LEAVE - part time:

Gretchen Helm: Congratulations to Gretchen, her husband, Idialyon, and Idialyon Saladin Helm, Jr. Idialyon, Jr., arrived on February 27, 2001, at 2:06 am weighing in at 7 pounds, 13 ounces.

OTHER NEWS FROM PROGRAMS, REGIONS and PARTNERS - News on Meetings, Publications, Training, Interagency Workgroups, etc.

EXECUTIVE ORDER ON TRIBAL CONSULTATION

Executive Order 13175 requires EPA and other federal agencies to establish and follow various procedures for consulting with federally recognized Tribal governments when the federal agencies' actions have substantial direct effects on Indian Tribes. (This document can be accessed on the Internet at www.epa.gov/indian/polin.htm .

Under the EO, each federal department and agency must select a designated official (DO) to ensure compliance with the Order and to develop a consultation process. EPA has designated the Director of AIEO as its DO.

The new Administration has approved the workgroup's request to include 6 to 8 tribal leaders or authorized tribal representatives in some of the workgroup's deliberations. This is a significant and positive development for the Agency and the Tribal community, as it is the first time that outside parties have been included in the Agency's development of a guidance for an Executive Order. By agreeing to Tribal participation at this stage, the Agency has responded positively to the importance Indian country places upon improving consultation between the federal and Tribal governments. AIEO and the NIWG are working with the EPA's Tribal Operations Committee (TOC) to determine identification of tribal representatives and the selection process.

AIEO and the NIWG encourage any comments, particularly from Tribal governments, concerning the development and interpretation of this guidance. You may submit them to **Jose Aguto** (202-260-6084), aguto.jose@epamail.epa.gov.

OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT & COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

NEJAC Fish Consumption and Water Quality Meeting - The National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC), a federal advisory committee to the EPA, is scheduled to meet December 3-5, 2001, in Seattle, Washington to focus on policy issues surrounding **Fish Consumption and Water Quality**. The Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ) will be posting additional information on the meeting on the NEJAC web site once it becomes available. (<http://es.epa.gov/oe-ca/main/ej/nejac/index.html>)

The NEJAC meeting is open to the public. **OEJ Contact: Danny Gogal**, (202) 564-2576, gogal.danny@epa.gov

CONTACT: Bob Smith, (202) 260-8202, smith.bob-nmi@epa.gov

OFFICE OF RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

TRIBAL SCIENCE COUNCIL: The Agency and interim Tribal representatives of the Tribal Science Council have been busy since their first face-to-face meeting in Florida on November 30, 2000, developing a preliminary Mission Statement for the Tribal Science Council. The workgroup has held a series of meetings and conference calls to share perspectives on what they expect the Tribal Science Council to do. After lengthy discussions, the group reached a mutually agreeable draft Mission Statement and set of goals and will continue to refine the steps the Tribal Science Council will take next. The group is developing a charter-like statement and a flow diagram that identifies participants, the manner in which the TSC relates to the existing agency Tribal program infrastructure, and the types of Tribal science issues that can be addressed by the Agency. The draft mission statement and other materials from the Tribal Science Council's preliminary workgroup meetings will be presented at the next Tribal Caucus meeting, June 12 and 13, 2001 and reviewed for presentation for full endorsement of the National Tribal Operations Committee (NTOC) at their meeting on July 11, 2001. Following endorsement by the full NTOC, EPA will initiate a process for nomination of Tribal scientists to the TSC. A fact sheet is available.

TRIBAL SCIENCE COUNCIL: AIEO contact: Marlene Regelski, (202) 260-7284; regelski.marlene@epa.gov **ORD**

CONTACT: Claudia Walters, (202) 564-6762, walters.claudia@epa.gov

OFFICE OF POLLUTION, PESTICIDES AND TOXIC SUBSTANCES (OPPTS)

FORUM ON STATE AND TRIBAL TOXICS (FOSTTA) TRIBAL MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT - EPA is recruiting Tribal members for membership and participation on the FOSTTA, which is a mechanism for state and Tribal officials to identify, discuss and address toxics-related issues. Some of these issues are lead, subsistence food, pollution prevention, toxic chemicals in the environment and increasing outreach to the tribes. The mission is to promote, plan and evaluate actions for protecting human health and the environment in Indian country from pollution threats addressed by OPPT in a manner consistent with EPA's Indian Policy and Tribal policies for working with EPA and cooperating states. Membership in the FOSTTA is open to senior tribal environmental and health managers and elected or politically appointed Tribal officials. The next meeting will be held June 11-12, 2001, at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Alexandria, Virginia. The meeting is by invitation only, and all travel, per diem and hotel expenses will be paid by OPPT. Meetings are held three times a year in the Washington metropolitan area and in the regions. For more information, contact **Mary Lautenbach, OPPT Tribal Coordinator**, Washington, DC, Tel: 202-260-9563, FAX: 202-260-2219.

EJP2 GRANT SOLICITATION - on February 21, 2001, EPA published the Federal Register announcement for the FY2001 EJP2 grant program. EPA anticipates that approximately \$750,000 in grant funds will be available to eligible organizations. The EJP2 guidance outlines the details of the program and includes an application form.

<http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/ejp2> or <http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/ejp2/2001.htm>

For more information, at headquarters, contact **Michele Veney** at (202) 260-1157, Veney.Michele@epa.gov

OPP's FY2001 TRIBAL PESTICIDE WATER QUALITY AND SPECIAL PROJECT SOLICITATIONS appeared in the March 19, 2001, Federal Register (FR). The FR notices may be accessed on the internet at www.epa.gov/fedrgstr OR on the homepage for the Office of Pesticide Programs at www.epa.gov/pesticides. The total amount of funding available in FY2001 to be awarded to tribal governments and/or intertribal consortia for pesticide special projects is \$200,000. Project proposals were due to Regional Tribal pesticide contacts by May 15, 2001. Applications were available on line. The Regional Tribal Pesticide Contacts are listed in the FR on this page:

<http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-PEST/2001/March/Day-19/p6719.htm>

The purpose of Tribal pesticide special project cooperative agreements is to provide financial assistance to eligible Tribal governments or intertribal consortia that are working on or plan to carry out projects in support of the development or implementation of a pesticides program. Funds can be used for new activities or to further an existing eligible project. Examples of the types of eligible projects include, but are not limited to: (a) pesticide outreach and education; (b) pesticide management, including implementation of a Integrated Pest Management plan, detailing reduced use or alternatives to pesticides; (c) pesticide sampling, such as soil sampling, or residue sampling on culturally significant/medicinal plants; and (d) determining the effects of pesticides on cultural activities, such as subsistence hunting and fishing. **Agency OPP Contact: Regina Langton** (703) 305-7161 langton.regina@epa.gov

TRIBAL PESTICIDE PROGRAM COUNCIL MEETING - On March 8th and 9th, 2001, Tribal representatives from across the United States gathered in Arlington, Virginia, for the third national meeting of the Tribal Pesticide Program Council (TPPC). The meeting was opened with a traditional tribal invocation and welcoming remarks from Marcia Mulkey, Director, and Anne Lindsay, Acting Deputy Director, of EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP). They were followed by reports from TPPC working groups and presentations on topics ranging from updates by EPA staff on a variety of Agency activities to expert-led discussions of West Nile virus. Also discussed were the spread of zoonotic diseases in deer and elk herds, issues surrounding the repatriation of potentially contaminated tribal artifacts, and many more topics.

At the meeting representatives from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and EPA engaged in significant discussion with TPPC members regarding the need for farmers on Tribal lands to have access to emergency exemptions allowing use of unregistered pesticides, pursuant to the provisions of Section 18 of FIFRA.

The TPPC was organized in late 1999 to provide tribes with a forum for discussion of pesticide issues in Indian country and to give them a clear voice in the determination of national pesticide policies and a recognized channel for bringing tribal pesticide issues to federal attention. Today its membership has grown to 42 tribes, 30 of which were represented at the Arlington meeting.

If you are interested in learning more about the TPPC, please contact the **TPPC Director at Native Ecology Initiative**, P. O. Box 470829, Brookline, MA 02147-0829; phone 617-232-5742; e-mail naecology@aol.com. **OPP Contact: Georgia McDuffie**, (703) 605-0195, mcduffie.georgia@epa.gov,

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION (OEI)

TRIBAL STRATEGY - OEI is beginning development of its Tribal Strategy, which is expected to be complete by late Summer, 2001. An OEI-wide workgroup which includes representatives from all of OEI's line offices will develop the strategy. The workgroup will also include representatives from EPA's Regional Offices and AIEO. The group will work closely with representatives from the Tribal Caucus to ensure that the strategy addresses information issues that are priorities for Tribes. OEI's contact for this activity is the **OEI Tribal Coordinator: Jan Jablonski**, (202) 564-6663, jablonski.jan@epa.gov

OFFICE OF SOLID WASTE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE (OSWER)

CEPPO TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS FOR TRIBES - The Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Office (CEPPO) is announcing the availability of the FY01 Technical Assistance Grants (TAG) for Indian Tribes. The announcement letter was sent to tribal governments. The purpose of the CEPPO TAG Program is to help Tribes develop chemical accident prevention and chemical safety programs under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act and Clean Air Act Section 112(r). This year CEPPO will fund tribal grants for a national total of approximately \$300,000 and will waive the previous year requirement of a 25% applicant match. Last year, we were able to fund 11 grants at a total of \$200,000. The FY01 grants guidance and application kit will be available through the CEPPO tribal regional point of contacts. We also expect to have both documents available in our web page at: <http://www.epa.gov/ceppo> **CEPPO Contact: Awilda Fuentes** at (202) 564-7996 or fuentes.awilda@epa.gov

NATIONAL TRIBAL CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (NTCEM)

Over the last ten years, the EPA-sponsored National Tribal Conference on Environmental Management has grown into one of the premier environmental events in Indian country. The Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response initiated this conference in 1992 and has co-sponsored the conference biannually into the present. Originally focused on solid waste activities, the conference has evolved in a diverse direction of environmental topics and attracts roughly 600 participants, including Tribes, tribal organizations, states, and federal program managers from across the Nation. A national tribal conference of this magnitude provides an excellent opportunity for sharing program information and public education on the various environmental media. The conference also provides EPA an opportunity to consult with a wide audience of tribal government representatives for various program purposes. Our expectations for the next national tribal conference (estimated for mid-2002) is to secure EPA-wide program participation and support to host this conference -- truly reflecting the diversity of the conference itself. **OSWER Contact: Felicia Wright**, (202) 260-4410, wright.felicia@epa.gov.

OSWER TRIBAL STRATEGY: OSWER is in the process of revising and finalizing its Tribal Strategy. The interim final OSWER Tribal Strategy received extensive review from federally-recognized Tribes, tribal organizations, the National Indian Workgroup and the Regions. Drawing upon comments received from these reviews, additional new information and by using a more integrated approach, OSWER will work closely with stakeholders, including the Tribal Operations Committee, to complete the significant revisions to this important document. **OSWER Contact: Felicia Wright**, (202) 260-4410, wright.felicia@epa.gov.

EPA FORUM ON MANAGING CONTAMINATED SEDIMENTS AT HAZARDOUS WASTE SITES - May 30

June 1, 2001, Hilton Old Town Alexandria, Virginia . This forum will facilitate an open exchange of information and viewpoints concerning cleanup of contaminated sediments. Panelists and participants will discuss the key science and policy issues for making the most appropriate site-specific risk management decisions that are consistent with current federal laws and regulations. Specifically, the forum will seek to accomplish the following objectives:

- * provide a forum for all stakeholders to express their opinions on EPA program policies and guidance that address sediment remediation;
- * identify the key site information and data that should be collected and evaluated in order to make informed site-specific cleanup decisions;
- * identify issues that need to be resolved, additional data that needs to be gathered and evaluated, and research that needs to be performed; and
- * share information and lessons learned as a result of managing contaminated sediment.

For more information: <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/new/sedforum.htm> **EPA Contact: Joan Fisk**, (703) 603-8791, Fisk.Joan@epa.gov

OFFICE OF SOLID WASTE (OSW) has announced that \$475K in FY 2001 funds are available for the Tribal Hazardous Waste Grant Program. The purpose of the Tribal Hazardous Waste Program Grants is to provide financial assistance

to Tribal governments and Tribal Consortia for the development and implementation of hazardous waste programs; for building capacity to improve and maintain regulatory compliance; and for developing solutions to address hazardous waste mismanagement impacting Tribal lands. EPA is seeking proposals that encourage the development and institutionalization of hazardous waste program capacity for Tribal governments and the communities they serve.

OSW headquarters is planning on distributing the funds to EPA Regions by the end of August. Regional EPA OSW offices will work with Tribes to develop project proposals. **Applicants must develop project proposals of not more than 10 pages and deliver these to the appropriate Regional Tribal Waste Management Program Coordinator by June 1, 2001.** A list of these contacts is available from Luke Jones. EPA OSW Contact: Luke Jones, (703)605-0728 or, Jones.Luke@epa.gov.

OFFICE OF WATER

EPA S 2001 WATER QUALITY STANDARDS ACADEMY BASIC COURSE FOR INDIAN TRIBES

will be held in Phoenix, Arizona, June 18-22, 2001. This is a basic introductory course designed for those with fewer than six months of experience with the water quality standards. There are additional WQS Academy courses scheduled for Tribes this year. For this and other information on pre-application, please contact EPA's contractor at the following address: **Water Quality Standards Academy Coordinator, c/o Great Lakes Environmental Center, 1295 King Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43212; telephone: 614-487-1040.**

OFFICE OF WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT (OWM)

PILOT TRIBAL WASTEWATER TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER - The Office of Wastewater Management's Municipal Assistance Branch in partnership with Northern Arizona University (NAU) have established a pilot **Tribal Wastewater Training and Technical Assistance Center**. The primary objective of the Center is to provide information and no-cost, direct on-site training and technical assistance to Indian tribes on their wastewater treatment facilities. It will function as a resource center or clearinghouse for tribes to access information via publications, databases and newsletters and as a contact point for other organizations that might be able to provide other Tribal services and assistance. The Center is a joint project of EPA and NAU. For further information on the project, contact **Virgil Masayesva at NAU**, (520) 523-9651, or **Agency Contact: Curt Baranowski** (202) 260-5806, baranowski.curt@epa.gov

A BROCHURE ON WASTEWATER TREATMENT PROGRAMS is available to Tribal Environmental Programs. In February 2001, the Office of Wastewater Management issued a four-page flyer that provides a brief overview of ten programs that offer wastewater treatment systems financial and/or technical assistance to Native Americans. EPA recognizes that a large number of homes in Indian Country lack adequate systems to treat or dispose of sewage. If not properly collected, treated, or disposed of, wastewater can seriously affect the health of our citizens, our groundwater and our surface waters. To request copies of the flyer call **Sylvia Bell**, (202) 564-0621, bell.sylvia@epa.gov

OFFICE OF AIR AND RADIATION (OAR)

THE INSTITUTE FOR TRIBAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONALS (ITEP) announces a **National Tribal Forum (NTF)**, **JUNE 25-26, 2001**, in Washington, DC. This is the first in a series for 2001 and is offered to provide Tribes, EPA representatives and other organizations an opportunity to meet and discuss current policies, regulatory initiatives, funding and technical topics in air quality.

Invited to this Forum are Tribal air quality professionals, EPA representatives (HQ, Regions, OAQPS, etc.), national Tribal organizations and other related professionals. The NTF Series is a cost-share event. ITEP will pay for lodging and per diem for one person per Tribe. The Tribe will be responsible for airfare. A limited number of scholarships (airfare, lodging, per diem) will be provided for hardship cases.

Topics may include, but are not limited to: EPA leadership transition, Tribal participation in Regional Planning Organizations, a National Tribal association of Air Professionals, National Scale Air Toxics Assessment and its implications for Indian Country, Tribal Air Monitoring Support Center, Tribal Air Quality Case Studies (National PM 2.5 NAAQS), challenges in implementing tribal air quality programs, EPA's regulatory initiatives (EPA progress on R10 Model Air Rules Project, permit programs, atmospheric deposition, ozone and other NAAQS redesignation processes), EPA funding issues, AISES, and Tribal Clean Air Act handbook.

For further information, contact **Pat Nebitsi at ITEP**, (520) 523-9555, Pat.Nebitsi@nau.edu **Registration** is available online at www.cet.nau.edu/itep/NTFS/NTFS_default.htm.

OFFICE OF COOPERATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Federal Advisory Committees are established by EPA, the President and Congress to solicit advice on numerous issues affecting the environment. Participation in an EPA Federal Advisory Committee provides an opportunity for Tribal, other governmental representatives, and members of the public to have an impact on the work of EPA early in the development process when changes are more easily incorporated. EPA is seeking Tribally affiliated participants who might be willing to participate in a Federal Advisory Committee. If interested, please contact: **Tim Sherer** (202) 564-9741, Sherer.Tim@epa.gov

REGIONAL NEWS

REGION 9 - TRIBAL CONFERENCE AND MEETINGS - The Region 9 Indian Programs Office coordinates an annual Tribal/EPA Conference held in San Francisco during the last week of October or early November. This year, the 9th Annual Conference will be held at the Holiday Inn Golden Gateway, San Francisco, California, on **October 24-26, 2001**. For information, please contact: Tim Grant at 415 744-1488, Gilbert Pasqua at 415 744-1595 or Lilia Dignan at 415 744-1600. In addition, we have three Regional Tribal Operations Committee (RTOC) Meetings held at Tribal facilities and one meeting in San Francisco in conjunction with our annual conference. Our next RTOC meeting will be held at White Mountain Apache Tribe in Hon Dah, Arizona, on **May 8-10, 2001**. **For information, please contact: Nancy Oien at 415 744-1486 or Lilia Dignan at 415 744-1600.** Region 9 publishes a monthly Indian Program Newsletter with up-to-date information on meetings/conferences, training/workshops, grants and funding availability and other items of interest to the Tribes. For more information, please contact **Bill Clarke** at 415 744-1520. **Region 9 contact: Clancy Tenley**, 415 744-1607, Tenley.Clancy@epa.gov

REGION 10

FEDERAL RECOGNITION: Two tribal governments in Alaska received federal recognition (King Salmon, Shoonaq); while three tribal governments in Washington are in final process of federal recognition (Cowlitz, Chinook, Duwamish).

TAS : The Burns Paiute Tribe in Oregon is in the process of becoming the 35th tribal government found to be eligible to participate in the Clean Water Act Section 106 Water Pollution Control Program. The Quinault Indian Nation and the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community (both in Washington) became the 7th and 8th tribal governments eligible for participation in the Clean Water Act Section 319 NonPoint Source Program. The Warm Springs Confederated Tribes and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (both in Oregon) are likely to be delegated the Water Quality Standards/Water Quality Certifications Program (CWA Sections 303/401) in the near future.

TRAINING: Alaska Tribal governments had an opportunity to participate in workshops about the Indian General Assistance Program (GAP) during the Alaska Forum on the Environment in February. Tribal Environmental Managers in Washington state convened a first-time 2-day conference hosted by the Quinault Indian Nation in March (for information contact Robin Slate at slate.robin@epa.gov or 360/753-9082. An advanced Tribal Water Quality Standards Workshop conducted by the EPA Water Quality Standards Academy will occur at the Quinault Nation's conference facility May 21-24 (registration closed March 30th). The R-10 Office of Water is sponsoring a series of workshops for tribal decision-makers in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington about the challenges of implementing the 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act amendments. The first workshop is scheduled for June 5-6 in Spokane, Washington. For information, contact Jeff KenKnight at kenknight.jeff@epa.gov or 206/553-0226.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION: The Nez Perce Tribe Environmental Restoration & Waste Management Program, in conjunction with Native American Awareness Week at Lewis-Clark State College, hosted a Forum on Tribal Environmental Education: Preserving Mother Earth Through Multicultural Education, March 14-16 in Lewiston, Idaho. Nez Perce has produced a draft Tribal Environmental Education Directory with a final directory scheduled to be completed by June 30th. For information, contact Solo Greene, Nez Perce Education Specialist at solog@nezperce.org or 208/843-7375, ext. 2446 (This project is supported by National GAP set-aside funds)

TRIBAL STRATEGY: Region 10 completed its Tribal Strategy in August 1999. To view this document, please go to <http://www.epa.gov/r10earth> and follow the tribal buttons to informative links. A key part of the R-10 Tribal Strategy is for each Regional Program Office to designate a Tribal Specialist who will be responsible for coordinating office resources and for developing office specific procedures on how to work with tribal governments. The Region 10 Office Tribal Specialists are:

- Kirk Robinson	Office of Management Programs (OMP-145)	(206) 553-2104
- Eric Winiecki	Environmental Cleanup Office (ECL-110)	(206) 553-6904
- Lucita Valiere	Office for Innovation (OI-085)	(206) 553-2964
- George Abel	Office of Environmental Assessment (OEA-095)	(206) 553-1198
- Mark MacIntyre	Office of External Affairs (EXA-142)	(206) 553-7302
- Regina Thompson	Office of Air Quality (OAQ-107)	(206) 553-1498
- Michele Wright	Office of Enforcement & Compliance (OEC-164)	(206) 553-1747
- Rich McAllister	Office of Regional Counsel (ORC-158)	(206) 553-8203
- Fran Stefan	Office of Waste & Chemical Management (M-128)	(206) 553-6639
- Jeff KenKnight	Office of Water (OW-137)	(206) 553-0226
- Dan Phalen	Office of Ecosystems & Communities (ECO-081)	(206) 553-8578
- Victoria Plata	Office of Civil Rights & Environmental Justice (CEJ-162)	(206) 553-8580

